2:Musil S-4, 5 (no date) 1928 MD4 Rwala MD4

342 of the pole passes]; sew a strip of coarse goat's hair, *ṭarâǰež*,
286 along the edges of the tent; at the end of these *ṭarâǰež* sew (Fig. 3)[5] on leather loops, *ḫurb* (*l*)[6], fastened to strong pegs [about ten centimeters in length]; through the leather loops draw and hook the ropes, both those which hold the tent on its long sides, *aṭnâb* (*h*), as well as those which hold it on the short sides [of which the front rope is known as *ǰad* (*i*), the back one as *riǧel* (*k*)]; *ḥoṭṭen aṭnâb ḥoṭṭen idên w-riǧlên*. Turn down as a hem the upper edge of the back wall, *rwâḳ* (*f*), and sew on this hem [which is about ten centimeters broad], *maḫalla*, a strong thread, *ǧerîr*, in order that it may be fastened by means of strong pins, *ḫella*; to the lower edge of the *rwâḳ* sew on a strip of inferior material [about fifty centimeters broad], *sefle*; to both the short sides [for a distance of fifty centimeters from the edge] sew on pieces of lighter tent material [about a meter and a half long]." This border strengthened to a breadth of fifty centimeters is known as *'amâra*, and the material which is sown forms the side wall, *ruffa* (*d*).

342 When the tent is to be pitched, its owner calls out to his
284 sons, servants, slaves, or women: "Spread out the tent, *ṭellû al-bejt* (Fig. 4); extend all the ropes, *maṛṛeṭû al-aṭnâb*; drive in the pegs with a wooden mallet, *eṭebṭû* (sic) *al-awtâd bel-mîǧema* (Figs. 5, 6); wind the ropes round the pegs; tighten the ropes, *ekrebû*, at the front, *al-meždem*, at the back, *ḳafa'*, and at the sides, *česer*, by loosening their ends in the loops, *ḫruba*, drawing them taut, and securing them, *'alîṭ* or *'aljeṭ* (Fig. 3, *m*); prop the poles up, *'emdân* (Figs. 7, 8), first those in the front on the side away from the wind, *esemkû al-mežâdîm* (Fig. 3, *a*), then the main pole, *esemkû al-wâseṭ* (*b*), thrusting it into the *ḳoṭb* opening in the middle of the tent, and finally the two poles at the rear corners, *česer* (*c*); when all the poles are standing, tighten all the ropes, *kırrebû al-aṭnâb*; attach the back wall to the windward side (Fig. 9) with iron pins, *rawwežû al-bejt*, and peg its lower part, *sefle*, down to the ground so that the wind may not lift it; do the same also with the side walls, *ruffa*; from the main pole and from two loops sewn on the edges of a *ṭarîḳa* strip hang a central
342 partition, *ḳâṭe'a*." This dividing partition, 1.6 meters high,
592 cuts the tent into two compartments, the right-hand one

[5] This figure represents my large tent of the kind used by the 'Aǧejl camel traders. Its rear wall and pegs differ from those of the common Rwala tent.

[6] In the following descriptions of the tent the text letters refer to Fig. 3.